

Today

The President and Salaries.
Germany, Help Yourself.
New Dragon Killer.
The Halifax Disaster.

Government workers, read an interview with Henry Ford about reduction of your salaries—on the last column of this page. You will be interested in the views of a man who has the right to give advice on the question of wages. And you will believe, as we do, that this Government will not simultaneously hand a thousand millions of public money to dishonestly managed railroads, and cut a few miserable dollars from the pay of faithful public servants. The President will prevent it, Ford says. And Woodrow Wilson WILL prevent it. We can hear him saying to Congressmen summoned to the White House:

"Cut your own salaries, cut mine, if you think it necessary. But increase the pay of overworked and underpaid women and men."

Lieutenant Ancillotto, of the Italian army, flew up into the air above Venice to attend to an Austrian balloon—one of the kind called "dragons." The proposition was to bring the dragon down—Ancillotto did bring it down.

He went at the big gas bag full of speed, running his machine at a hundred and fifty miles an hour right through the huge balloon and entangling the silk cloth in his propeller.

As he went through the gas bag the sparks from his engine set fire to the gas. His gray car was scorched black, and he came down with eyebrows, hair, and carefully trimmed mustache all burned off. But he came down alive, ready for another "dragon" hunt in a few days.

If you had seen a story like this about Ancillotto in a book a few years ago you would have handed it to your little boy and said, "Read that; it is for children."

As for old St. George, who killed the dragon with his spear, or Theseus, who slew the minotaur, what would HE think about this new kind of dragon killing up in the air?

Snow on the ground and falling, with cold winds this morning. This weather, relatively mild, helps Washington to realize the dreadful disaster at Halifax. There, thousands are homeless, thousands are dead, and, worst of all, hundreds, perhaps thousands, imprisoned in ruins, freeze to death.

But at least, that calamity was an accident—not so of the greater calamity that curses the world and has cursed it for more than three years.

That was no accident, but the cold, brutal calculation of devilish ambition and maniac cruelty.

A few thousand die in Halifax, and because they are close to us, the disaster touches our heart. The nation would do anything to help and to make such a thing impossible in future.

We should be touched more deeply by the deliberate murder of millions in Europe. We should be resolved, at any price in men or in money, stagnant business, or arrested civilization, not to let it be said that the men of France, England, Italy, Russia, Serbia, and the women and children of Belgium DIED IN VAIN.

A Northern blizzard freezes the Halifax victims, stiffens their bodies, soon their suffering ends.

In Europe the thing goes on and on. Our own young men are going out to be shot because a brutal Prussia for forty years prepared its killing machines for wholesale murder.

This country owes its birth to the fact that men born here would not stand taxation without representation.

Unless all that old courage has died out, the Emperor of Germany will learn that this country will not stand murder without an efficient protest.

What about Russia, the country that endured brutal autocracy for centuries, then suddenly ran away, lay down and blew up when it had a chance, by fighting, to do something for democracy?

They have over there among the Bolsheviks and other dreamers of dreams, an armistice with Germany which means that the fight is out of them. They would rather talk than fight, rather eat than do either.

What will be done about Russia? How does this suggestion impress you?

When the time comes to end this war in THE ALLIES WAY, say to Germany:

You want to expand—go ahead and expand into Russia. You want more territory—HELP YOURSELF.

The bear that used to walk like a man according to Kipling, and that now lies down like a dog, seems fond of you, take advantage of his affection.

Give back Alsace-Lorraine to France, make yourself as democratic as you know how—and then keep yourself busy expanding and developing and, if you can, governing in that new gigantic "Balkan problem" that the Russian explosion presents.

WEATHER:
SNOW
THIS
AFTERNOON;
COLDER

NUMBER 10,371.

WASHINGTON, SATURDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 8, 1917. [Closing Wall Street Prices.]

FINAL
EDITION

PRICE WITHIN DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, 1c. ELSEWHERE, 2c.

AMERICAN DESTROYER SUNK---SIXTY LIVES LOST BROTHER OF MRS. DANIELS AMONG THE MISSING

ITALY CHEERED BY AMERICA'S WAR DECREE ON AUSTRIA

Declaration Comes at Most Opportune Time, Paris Hears. Battle Line Is Stiffened by Word.

PARIS, Dec. 8.—America's declaration of war against Austria-Hungary comes at a most opportune time and will have a deep effect in stiffening the resistance of the Italian people against the Germans and Austrians invading their country, according to belief expressed in official circles here today.

In northern Italy the gallant Italian army, supported by British and French, is hard pressed by the fresh masses of Austro-German soldiers continually thrown against their lines.

Center on Asiago. Along the Asiago plateau, where the Teutons are now making their greatest effort, they have concentrated heavy forces of artillery and re-enforcements of men drawn from the eastern front, where there is no fighting at present.

Whether or not the United States will send men into Italy was a question that none undertook to answer, but by declaring war against Austria-Hungary has opened the way for such action if deemed necessary.

Dispatches from Rome today said that the Austro-Germans, under Field Marshal von Hoesendorf and the northern edge of the Venetian plain. If the Teutons are to carry their outflanking drive to a successful conclusion this strip of mountain land must be crossed.

While the Germans and Austrians are striking new and powerful blows, the people of Venice still remain cheerful and confident that the invaders will not break through.

Not Surprised by Rumania. The Bolshevik commissars who crossed the German lines are still at Brest Litovsk.

The official news that Rumania had concluded a truce with the enemy caused no surprise here. Rumania's position is serious, as the greater part of the country was overrun by German, Austrian, Bulgarian and Turkish troops and she was relying mainly on Russia for her defense in the event fighting were resumed.

Contrary to recent reports from Petrograd that the Bolshevik government headed by Nicholas Lenin and Leon Trotsky was collapsing it seemed today to be stronger than ever.

HEAVY ARTILLERY BATTLE IS ON ALONG MEUSE; GERMAN RAID DEFEATED

PARIS, Dec. 8.—Heavy artillery fire around Hill No. 244, Bezonvaux, Beaumont, and other points on the right bank of the Meuse, was reported in today's official statement.

South of Senonville a German raid failed.

BRITISH REALIGNMENT BRINGS ARMY FIVE MILES FROM FOE'S CAMBRAI BASE

LONDON, Dec. 8.—Re-alignment of the British forces on the Cambrai front has placed them five miles from the German base of Cambrai. This (Continued on Page 2, Column 5.)

Henry Ford Says: "Raise Government Salaries"

On the Train From Michigan to Washington, December 7, 1917.

Dear Mr. Brisbane:

About the suggestion that the pay of Government clerks and other civil service employees be reduced.

If the Government does anything about salaries and its clerks, those salaries should be RAISED, not lowered. The Government has shown that it can raise money. It can afford to set a generous example to all the nation's employers.

HENRY FORD.
P. S.—I am saving tractor No. 9 for you and your farm. Burbank gets No. 1, Edison gets No. 2. I kept one of the first ten for you, and you get it as soon as I can deliver it.

H. F.

[Ford's opinion on Government salaries you will find discussed on the last page of this newspaper. The postscript to his letter refers to the farm tractor which Mr. Ford and his son are manufacturing and of which they are now shipping thousands to England.]

FOES HELD FOR THREATS MAKE BLAZE IN U.S. WAREHOUSE WOMEN SHUN MEANS TRIAL

CHICAGO, Dec. 8.—Four Austrians were arrested by Federal operatives in connection with a fire which destroyed a Government warehouse on the South Side today. Their names and the specific charge against them were withheld.

The warehouse caught fire shortly before 9 o'clock today, and the flames spread so rapidly that a second alarm was sounded.

The building was guarded by a number of soldiers. The fire started on the third floor of the five-story building in which are stored army clothing and similar supplies. In an adjacent warehouse was a quantity of high explosives. These were removed by soldiers and firemen.

It is a fact that when Dooling began cross-examining Means and opened his first question in a stern and harsh manner that Brandon Means jumped from his chair and started toward the State's counsel table and then caught himself and again took his seat. There have also been charges that other members of the defendant's family have made threats by pantomime to those sitting on the State's side of the court room.

Means Armed in Court. When Means took the stand yesterday to continue his direct testimony, he took from the right-hand pocket of his coat a .25-caliber Colt's automatic revolver, and laid it on a small table near the witness chair. It was presumed this weapon was not loaded, and the fact that the defendant in a murder trial had it in his pocket evoked no remark from the court.

The situation is entirely out of the hands of Judge E. B. Cline. He evidenced this last night when he absolutely failed to handle the general row in which the court was when an adjournment was taken.

Means Defiant Today. Means, the defendant, was again defiant and smirking when he took the witness chair today. He has (Continued on Page 2, Column 7.)

Ida Farmer, colored, pleaded guilty to the charge, and was sentenced by Judge Mullowney to serve thirty days in jail. She did not tell where she procured the whiskey.

Isaiah Redding, who was arrested on G street yesterday, was also given a thirty-day sentence for breaking the "dry" city's liquor law.

Joseph L. Ruppel, white, thirty-nine years, arrested last night and charged with being drunk, did not appear in Police Court today, thereby forfeiting his collateral.

James W. Walker, white, forty years old, was arrested about 9 o'clock last night and taken to the First precinct station, where the police say that he was too drunk to tell where he procured his "remedy" for the acute indigestion with which he was suffering.

A physician from the Emergency Hospital was summoned and gave treatment. Walker was removed to the Washington Asylum Hospital and did not appear in Police Court today.

REASONABLE PRICE FOR FOODSTUFFS MAY BE SET SOON

The fixing of a schedule of "reasonable" prices for foodstuffs in Washington is under consideration this afternoon at a conference called by Federal Food Administrator Clarence R. Wilson.

He will take up the question of the framing of such a price list with the advisory committee recently appointed by him, consisting of a number of wholesale and retail grocers and food dealers and women consumers.

The question of broad price and distribution is also a topic of discussion at this meeting.

CZAR ESCAPES FROM SIBERIA, LANSLING HEARS FROM CONSUL

German Intrigue to Rehabilitate "Nicky" on His Throne by "Willie" Feared by Russian Revolutionists.

By DAVID LAWRENCE.

Out of the mass of cablegrams that reached the Department of State today one caused more perplexity than all the rest.

It was a message from the American consul at Tiflis, Persia, and contained the rumor that the deposed czar of Russia had made his escape.

Lansing Gives to Press.

Nothing more than that was received, but Secretary Lansing thought it of sufficient importance to give to the press. Ordinarily the State Department doesn't give currency to sensational rumors unless pretty well assured of their authenticity. And American consuls do not report mere hearsay, but information in which they themselves place credence.

So while it was not absolutely verified that the czar had extricated himself from the clutches of the revolutionists, the general disposition was to regard the rumor as true, particularly because of the unsettled conditions throughout Russia and the seeming lack of administrative authority on the part of the present regime over parts of the country distant from Petrograd.

German Intrigue Suspected.

Coming on top of the news that Bolshevik troops were obtaining control of the Trans-Siberian railway from Vladivostok eastward, there was more than a suspicion that German money and German intrigue were responsible for the escape of the czar and the evident determination of the Lenin government to prevent any hostile movement from being directed toward Petrograd from Siberian ports where munitions and supplies in great numbers have been shipped from the United States and Japan.

American railway engineers have been engaged in repairing the Trans-Siberian railway and from a military point of view possession of the Pacific terminus is a paramount necessity.

Kept Guessing Here.

The kaleidoscopic changes in the Russian situation have of course kept the Washington government guessing and when a rumor comes that the czar has escaped the authorities here are as much in the dark as its meaning as the general public.

Facilities for rapid communication with the isolated parts of Russia are poor and cablegrams to and from the American embassy at Petrograd have been subjected to unexplained delays. David R. Francis, the American ambassador, has wide powers of discretion and whatever action he and his advisers of the American military and engineering missions decide upon will be approved by President Wilson and Secretary Lansing. They have no alternative because the men on the spot alone can judge what it is best to do.

Such intimations, however, of the activities of the American ambassador as have reached here point to a direct effort on his part to cultivate friendly relations with the Lenin-Trotsky government. This would indicate that instead of collapsing, the Maximilians are hold their own—at least, in Petrograd.

What is happening in other parts of the republic where independent movements abound is, of course, unknown. If the czar has escaped, however, it seems to be a foregone conclusion that unless he is content to go to Bulgaria or Turkey and make his way to Austria or Germany, the effect on the whole situation will be disturbing.

On the other hand, should he essay a counter-military movement in the hope of rallying some of his loyal forces in a desperate attempt to recover the reins of government for the Romanoff dynasty, observers believe the Russian revolutionary elements would be promptly solidified and the Lenin-Trotsky government would be compelled to fall back on the entente allies for material support.

Again, if the czar does reach Germany, it is likely to arouse all manner of suspicion among the Russian revolutionists who will constantly suspect that Germany when the time is ripe will seek to reinstate the czar as a puppet.

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The deckload of benzine on the Mont Blanc got afire from the flames from the Imo, and after that nothing could have stopped what happened. "As luck would have it, there had been a big fire at the dockyards, and a large crowd of people were there watching it. When the explosion oc-

Maybe He Was Thinking How to Escape When This Picture Was Snapped.



By CENTRAL NEWS PHOTO SERVICE.

"NICKY" ROMANOFF, EX-CZAR.

The State Department's announcement of the rumored escape of the ex-czar from his prison home in Siberia comes just upon the heels of the report that one of his daughters was headed for America after a fake marriage and a thrilling escape from her guards. Apartments are very scarce in Washington, but the Russian ex-royals would have little difficulty in finding a place to sleep and eat if they should decide to make the finest city in the world their future home.

SURVIVOR TELLS CAUSE OF BLAST AND LOSS OF LIFE

BOSTON, Dec. 8.—Word reached here at noon that the Massachusetts relief train had reached Halifax. This is the first relief train to arrive in the stricken city.

BOSTON, Dec. 8.—John E. Arbuckle, of Brockton, Halifax agent of a large American packing house, arrived in this city today on the second train which has come out of Halifax since the disaster there.

His story of the explosion and subsequent fire has cleared up several points in connection with the disaster. It explains why so many people were killed near the docks, and tells in more detail the causes of the original explosion on board the Mont Blanc. Here is his story:

"To begin with, let me straighten out the story of the causes of the whole thing. The Belgian relief ship Imo, got on fire at sea and with her holds ablaze and her pumps pumping water into her to keep down the fire, she rushed for Halifax.

EXPLOSIVES SHIP LEAVING.

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curred, it was among this crowd, not half a mile from the explosion itself, where the greatest number of deaths occurred.

"At this point the forces of the explosion was terrific. The fire chief had a long stick blown clear through his head. There has been some doubt about the time the thing happened. I know that the clock in my office stopped at just 9:05. I was coming out of the door of the office at the time. The first thing I knew I was sitting on the floor in the hallway and wondering what it was that had happened. Most people say they (Continued on Page 2, Column 1.)

ONLY 37 OF CREW ARE SAFE AFTER TORPEDOING

David Worth Bagley, Secretary Daniels' Brother-in-Law, "Commander of Jacob Jones, Not in List of Rescued.

The American destroyer Jacob Jones was torpedoed at 8 o'clock Thursday night while patrolling foreign waters and only thirty-seven survivors have been picked up, the Navy Department announced this afternoon.

This would indicate that about sixty men were lost, although others may be safe.

The Jones was commanded by Lieut. Comdr. David Worth Bagley, brother of Mrs. Josephus Daniels, wife of the Secretary of the Navy.

Daniels Deeply Mourned. Secretary of Navy Daniels, always visibly affected at any disaster to navy craft, was deeply moved at this event which hit his immediate family.

Mrs. Daniels lost another brother in the navy during the Spanish-American war, Worth Bagley, an ensign, who was the first man killed.

The Jacob Jones was comparatively a new craft, having been launched in May, 1916, and put into commission February, 1917.

Mrs. Daniels Frostrated.

Mrs. Daniels was prostrated at her home by the news. Interviewers who were admitted found her in tears, unable to discuss the loss of the ship and the still unreported fate of her brother.

Mrs. Adelaide E. Bagley, mother of the ship commander and a guest at the Secretary's home, also was deeply moved, but was evidently making a strong effort to console the younger woman.

The official announcement, made through the Committee on Public Information, said:

"The American destroyer, Jacob Jones, was torpedoed and sunk Thursday, December 6, at 8 p. m., while on patrol duty in foreign waters.

Early reports indicate that thirty-seven survivors had been picked up so far. They were taken off life raft.

"The names of the survivors have been received up to this time. They are: Lieut. (J. G.) John E. Richards, Ensign Nelson N. Gates, Assistant Surgeon J. L. Abankiewicz.

Edward F. Grady, seaman, second class. John J. Mulvaney, seaman. Byron Myron Flood, seaman. Charles E. Pierce, seaman, first class.

Timothy Edward Twomey, seaman. John C. Johnson, seaman. Henry A. Stutzky, chief machinist's mate.

Saved 305 From Orama.

The Jacob Jones had previously distinguished herself in October when the P. and O. steamer Orama, converted into an auxiliary cruiser, was torpedoed on October 19.

The Jones saved 305 of the 478 persons aboard at that time.

The official statement in connection with this Orama incident said:

"The Jones did excellent work in October upon the occasion of the torpedoing of the steamship Orama. "At 6 p. m., October 19, the Orama, a former P. & O. vessel, converted into an auxiliary cruiser, was torpedoed by an enemy submarine.

"The Orama at the time was part of a convoy of merchant vessels under escort of American destroyers, of which the Jacob Jones was one.

U-Boat Destroyed.

"The submarine's periscope was seen after the explosion. She was immediately attacked and put out of action. The Jacob Jones and another destroyer were detailed to remain by the Orama to save life.

"It was dark when the Orama began to settle, and the crew abandoned her. The Jacob Jones picked up in the dark 305 of the 478 persons on board.

"All on board the Orama were saved by these two vessels."

The Jacob Jones was 160 feet long, had a draft of 22 feet and displaced 1,690 tons. Her speed was over 30 knots an hour.

She was one of the new type of oil-burning destroyers and was propelled by turbine engines.

David Worth Bagley was assigned to command a destroyer on June 4, 1914, and immediately went on active sea service. He was renowned with the department as an efficient navigator.

(Continued on Page 2, Column 7.)